

CLAIMS

1. A butterfly needle (100) for venipuncture comprising

- a substantially cylindrical body (1) with two outwardly extending flexible tongues (2) that can be manually grasped and bent by the user from a diverging position to a converging position, and

- a needle (9) mounted axially in the head of a needle-carrier (3) coupled to said body (1) so that the needle (9) protrudes forward from said body (1), said needle-carrier having a tail (8) protruding rearward from said body (1) to couple with the connection of a flexible tube intended to be connected to a syringe or bottle, characterised in that

said needle-carrier device (3) is mounted so as to slide axially inside the body (1) to pass from a forward position of use wherein the needle (9) protrudes forward from said body (1) to perform the injection to a retracted position of safety in which the needle (9) is protected inside said body (1), there being provided:

- guide means (13, 33) able to guide the axial movement of said needle-carrier (3) inside said body (1) and

- end-of-stroke and locking means (18, 17, 36) able to lock said needle-carrier in said forward position and in said retracted position.

2. A butterfly needle (100) according to claim 1, characterised in that spring means (4) are disposed inside said body (1), between a collar (12) of said body (1) and an abutment surface (32) of said needle-carrier (3), said spring means (4) being loaded when said needle-carrier is in the forward position of use.

3. A butterfly needle (100) according to claim 2, characterised in that said spring means comprise a spiral spring (4) disposed around a front part (30) of said needle-carrier, having a smaller diameter than a central part (31) of said needle-carrier.

4. A butterfly needle (100) according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that said guide means comprise a longitudinal slot (13) formed in the body (1) and a substantially cylindrical nib (33) which protrudes radially outward from the needle-carrier (3) to be able to slide within said longitudinal slot.

5. A butterfly needle (100) according to claim 4, characterised in that said longitudinal slot (13) is defined by a front abutment surface (14) and a rear narrowing (15; 115) able

to block said nib (33) when the needle-carrier (3) is in the forward position of use and the retracted position of safety, respectively.

5 6. A butterfly needle (100) according to claim 4 or 5, characterised in that said end-of-stroke and locking means comprise a manual operating device (34) comprising a hollow cylinder (35) rotatably mounted on said needle-carrier (3) and an operating lever (36) protruding radially from said cylinder (35) and protruding outward from said longitudinal slot (13) to be able to be operated manually by the user, so as to lock said needle-carrier, when it is respectively in the forward position of use and in the retracted position of
10 safety.

7. A butterfly needle (100) according to claim 6, characterised in that said longitudinal slot (13) has a front recess (18) at the front, suitable to receive said manual operating lever (36) to lock the needle-carrier in the forward position of use and a rear recess (17) able to receive said manual operating lever (36) to lock the needle-carrier (3) in the
15 retracted safety position.

8. A butterfly needle (100) according to claim 7, characterised in that said manual operating device (34) is disposed behind said nib (33), said operating lever (36) has a smaller thickness than said narrowing (15) and said rear locking recess (17) is disposed
20 behind said narrowing (15).

9. A butterfly needle (100) according to any one of claims 5 to 8, characterised in that said body (1) comprises at least one flexible tongue (116) disposed obliquely in the rear part of said longitudinal slot (13) so that the free end (119) of said tongue is disposed
25 opposite said narrowing (115) to lock said nib (33) of the needle-carrier in abutment between the narrowing (115) and the free end (119) of the flexible tongue, when the needle-carrier is in the retracted position of safety.

30 10. A butterfly needle (100) according to claim 9, characterised in the said at least one flexible longitudinal tongue (116) is formed by means of a longitudinal cut (117) on said body (1).